





# **Global Impact Credit Strategy**

Matt Lawton, CFA Portfolio Manager

September 2023

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### **Table of Contents**

- Global Impact Credit Overview
- Portfolio Review
- Performance Review
- Exhibits



## **Today's Speaker**



Matt Lawton, CFA
Portfolio Manager
Global Impact Credit Strategy







## Global Impact Credit Overview

## **Making the Case for Impact Investing**

Impact investments allow investors to:



Address the world's most pressing issues – socially & environmentally



Align one's values with their financial goals



Achieve compelling returns by investing in the companies on the **right side of change** 



Capturing measurable evidence of impact

**The Aim** 



Impact investing offers investors an accessible way to generate a **positive social and/or environmental impact**, alongside attractive and stable long-term financial returns.

## T. Rowe Price Global Impact Investing Objectives:

The Global Impact Credit Strategy seeks:

Material & Measurable Impact



Intentionality & Additionality



Financial Return, Income & Diversification



A dual mandated approach.

## Why T. Rowe Price Global Impact Credit?



## Depth & Breadth of Resources

- Platform collaboration, covering a broad opportunity set across credit sectors
- Proprietary screening models to identify companies that deliver positive environmental or social impact
- Proprietary frameworks for assessing the credibility of credit, securitized, and sovereign ESG-labelled bonds
- Deep experience and expertise in ESG integration and responsible investing

Cross asset collaboration, combined with proprietary screening models help identify high-impact investments



#### Committed Impact Research Measurement & Engagement

- Investing in high impact-aligned issuers, not limited to green bonds
- Active engagement programs to promote and progress our impact thesis
- We hold every Impact investment to a high standard and have robust reporting to measure Impact
- Active management with a forwardlooking perspective on Impact outcomes

In-depth impact analysis and engagement helps to ensure materiality, measurability, and additionality



## Risk Managed Portfolio Construction

- Diversified portfolio of global credit impact aligned bonds
- Calibrate positions based on conviction level and risk diversification characteristics
- Leveraging our extensive research platform to uncover attractive bottom-up opportunities
- Proprietary credit research process

Risk-aware, portfolio management enables controlled tracking error

Global Impact Credit Overview Performance Review Exhibits

## **Global Impact Credit Investment Team**

As of 30 June 2023

#### **Portfolio Manager**

Drives portfolio construction, risk allocation and performance



- Matt Lawton, CFA
   Portfolio Manager—
   Global Impact Credit Strategy
- 16 years of investment experience
- 12 years with T. Rowe Price

#### **Portfolio Strategy Team**

Conducts impact and ESG bond research; collaborates with Responsible Investing team and fundamental analysts



- Willem Visser
   Fixed Income ESG
   Associate Portfolio
   Manager
- 11 years of investment experience
- 6 years with T. Rowe Price



- Ellen O'Doherty, CFA Impact Associate Analyst
- 3 years of investment experience
- 3 years with T. Rowe Price

Provides support to the Portfolio Manager, whilst working with Clients on strategy updates and messaging



 Michael Ganske, CFA, FRM, Ph.D.
 Portfolio Specialist Fixed Income



- experience
- 3 years with T. Rowe Price



Yukiko Hanai, CMA
 Portfolio Specialist
 Fixed Income

■ Baltimore Associate

London AssociateHong Kong AssociateTokyo Associate

- 30 years of investment experience
- 5 years with T. Rowe Price

#### **Impact Equity Teams**

Provides cross-asset impact collaboration and idea generation, along with joint issuer engagement

- Hari Balkrishna Portfolio Manager— Global Impact Equity Strategy
- David Rowlett, CFA Portfolio Manager US Impact Equity Strategy
- Chris Vost, CFA Analyst Global Impact Equity Strategy
- Kaoutar Yaiche Analyst US Impact Equity Strategy

ESG dedicated full-time investment resources

#### **Responsible Investing Team**

Support the Portfolio Management Team to identify, analyze, and integrate Impact and ESG considerations most likely to have a material impact on an investment's performance

- Maria Elena Drew Director of Research
   Responsible Investing
- Tongai Kunorubwe Head of ESG Fixed Income
- Joe Baldwin Financials, Real Estate
- Greg Bragg Consumer
- Francesco Buonocore Industrials

- Dylan Cotter Municipals, Securitized
- Ashley Hogan Technology, Media & Telecom
- Natalie McGowen Sovereigns
- ▲ Clarice Hung Generalist

- ▲ Iona Richardson Consumer, Technology, Media & Telecom
- Daniel Ryan Health Care
- Matt Kleiser Generalist
- Duncan Scott Natural Resources

- Suha Read General Manager
- Matthew Lodge Snr Business Analyst
- Michael Ray Snr Business Analyst
- Donna Anderson Governance
- Jocelyn Brown Governance

#### **Fixed Income and Equity Analyst Team**

Conduct macro, credit, quantitative, and ESG analysis

56 Credit Analysts54 Quant Analysts

94 Equity Research Analysts

38 Specialty Analysts

- 10 Associate Analysts
- 53 Associate Equity Research Analysts
- 14 ESG Specialists

- 147 CFA® Charterholders
- Average 12 years investment experience

#### Fixed Income Trading

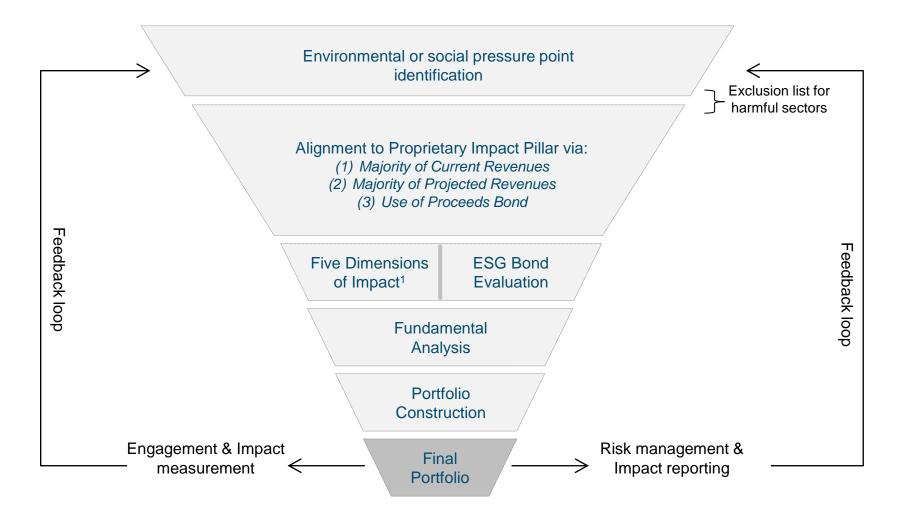
Source liquidity and provide market feedback

- 32 Dedicated Sector Traders
- 3 CFA® Charterholders
- 20 Average years investment experience

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Portfolio Specialists do not assume portfolio management responsibilities. The Associate Portfolio Manager is responsible for assisting the Portfolio Manager with the investment process and client service efforts.

## A Robust and Repeatable Investment Process



A process that can support bespoke impact or financial objectives.

Global Impact Credit Overview Performance Review Exhibits

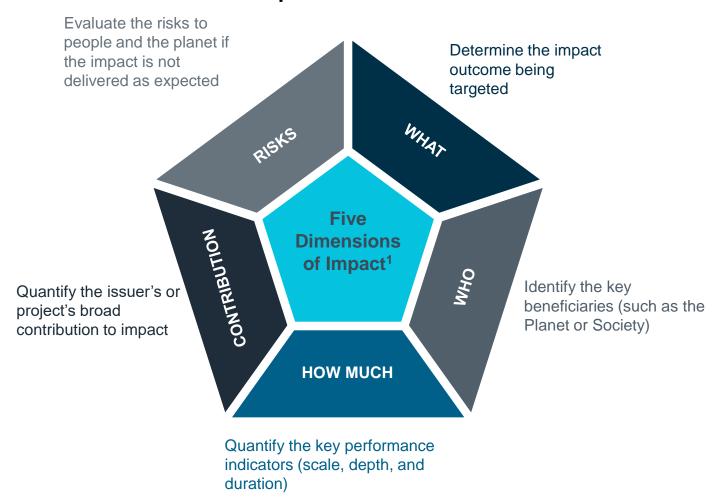
## **Alignment to Impact Investment Pillars**

Impact Pillars	Sub-Pillars	Sub-Pillar Activities	UN SDG Alignment
Climate and Resource Impact	1. Reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs)	Increasing energy efficiency Decarbonization, carbon capture, and sequestration Reducing methane and other GHGs Financing activities	7 HIPSCHALLAND 9 MONTH MONORMO 11 MONORMO 13 MONORMOLICIES 13 MONOR MONORMOLICIES 13 MONORM
	2. Promoting healthy ecosystems	Protecting air quality, land use, freshwater & oceans Sustainable agriculture Sustainable aquaculture	6 READWINDS  14 IFF WILDS  15 OF LAND  15 OF LAND  15 OF LAND
7	3. Nurturing circular economies	Reducing waste Recycling Enabling efficient consumption	12 ASSYMBATE CONCINTRAL CONCINTRA
Social Equity and Quality of Life	<b>4.</b> Enabling social equity	Education & job training Financial inclusion Enabling SMEs Enabling enterprise growth Reducing discrimination Digital connections Meeting basic needs / affordable housing Consumption at the bottom-of-the-pyramid	1 POYETY  1 POYE
	5. Improving health	Providing health care solutions Improving nutrition & food quality Companion & animal health	2 MADO SOCIONEATH SOCIONEATH STATEMENT STATEME
	6. Enhancing quality of life	Promoting mental & physical fitness Protection solutions Personal & worker safety solutions, Safer mobility	3 MONITORING BEETST WORK AND CONTROL MANUAL PRINTED BEETST WORK AND CONTROL MANUAL PRINTED BEETST BE
Sustainable Innovation and Productivity	7. Sustainable technology	Innovative software & technology Innovation growth & smart infrastructure	9 ACCIPITIONALE 11 SISTEMATICALES ADDITIONAL TO THE PROPERTY ADDITIONAL TO
	8. Building sustainable industry and infrastructure	Enabling enterprise growth Improving industrial processes	8 RECOUNT COUNTY  OF MANIPULATION  11 MECHANISTIC  A DESCRIPTION

Source: T. Rowe Price uses a proprietary custom structure for impact pillar and sub-pillar classification. http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

## **Impact Analysis**

#### The Five Dimensions of Impact<sup>1</sup>



#### <sup>1</sup> The Five Dimensions of Impact is a measurement framework developed by the Impact Management Project, an impact practitioner community of over 2,000 organisations. The IMP is a project by Bridges Fund Management Ltd (company number 10401079) ("Bridges").

#### The Theory of Change

#### **INPUT**

Financial, human or material resources the company puts in its business operations

#### **OUTPUT**

Products or services which result from the company's business activities

#### OUTCOME

Short to medium-term effect on stakeholders attributable to a company's products or services

#### **IMPACT**

Long-term effect on the planet or society caused by a company's products or services

## **Impact Analysis**

#### **Evaluating ESG Labelled Bonds**



#### Issuer's ESG Profile

- ✓ Proprietary T. Rowe Price RIIM score
- ✓ Issuer's environmental and/or social targets/commitments



#### Framework, Standards, Verification

- ✓ ICMA alignment
- ✓ Second party opinion
- ✓ Governance structure



#### Use of Proceeds

- ✓ Credibility of proceeds
- Proceeds management and allocation
- ✓ Refinancing
- ✓ Addressing ineligibility



## Post-Issuance Reporting

 Reported allocation of proceeds

12

✓ Audit reporting

Our ESG bond model aims to guard against greenwashing and identify high impact projects.

## **Fundamental Analysis**

As of 30 June 2023

#### Every credit is assigned an internal rating and conviction score by our global credit analyst team.

#### **Inputs to Fundamental Research**

#### **Qualitative Analysis**

- Management quality
- Business plan and execution
- Market position/share
- Strategic issues/challenges

#### **Quantitative Analysis**

- Credit statistics
- Ratio analysis
- Liquidity assessment

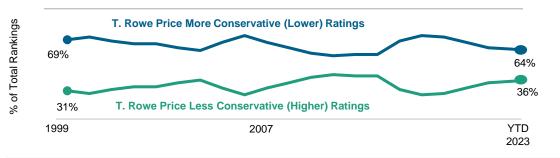
#### Firm Collaboration

- Information sharing
- Access to senior management
- Different perspective
- ESG assessment

TRP	Investment	Conviction <sup>1</sup>
-----	------------	-------------------------

- Compelling Overweight/ C<sub>1</sub> Strong Buy/ Best Ideas
- Overweight/ C2 Buv/ Attractive Value
- Even Weight/ Hold/ Fairly Valued
- Underweight/ C4 Reduce/ Overvalued
- Eliminate/
- Strong Underweight/ Avoid

Our ratings have generally been more conservative than those of major rating agencies.<sup>2</sup>



Our independent thinking typically differs from the major rating agencies by approximately

on average.

T. Rowe Price internal ratings versus Moody's and S&P Ratings-Investment Grade Corporate Bonds (1 January 1998 to 30 June 2023).

Our average win/loss ratio<sup>2</sup> versus the major rating agencies is greater than

The study is ongoing & continuous since 1998. Due to the nature of the analysis, more recent periods have smaller data samples, therefore data is only presented through 2020.

<sup>1</sup> C1-C5 are internal proprietary ratings that T. Rowe Price analysts assign to each bond in their coverage area. These ratings are independent of the rating agencies and offers the portfolio management team a screen of the conviction level for a given security.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> T. Rowe Price wins when Agency adjusts its prior rating to match T. Rowe Price's rating. T. Rowe Price loses when T. Rowe Price adjusts its prior ratings to match an Agency's rating. T. Rowe Price Ratings Comparison vs. the Agencies—

T. Rowe Price credit analysts perform independent credit evaluations for several thousand securities (T. Rowe Price Ratings). Internal T. Rowe Price systems maintain ratings from Moody's, Fitch, and Standard & Poor's (collectively known as External Rating Agencies) and Current and Historical T. Rowe Price Holdings classified by Issuer and Debt Level. T. Rowe Price analysts compare T. Rowe Price Ratings with each of the External Rating Agencies—using Notch Ratings, which converts all the ratings into a single numeric scale—to generate variance data for specified dates. Aggregate reporting compares each External Rating Agency's rating and determines the total number of ratings that are the same, higher, or lower compared with the T. Rowe Price Ratings. The comparison of these results is then used to determine the percentage where T. Rowe Price ratings are either the same as, more conservative (higher) than, or less conservative (lower) than the External Rating Agency ratings (Variance Reporting). The comparison excludes T. Rowe Price short-term securities (those with maturities of less than 397 days), T. Rowe Price taxable money market securities, GSE (Government Sponsored Enterprise) mortgages, escrowed-to-maturity, and pre-refunded securities. A security is excluded from T. Rowe Price's conclusions if either T. Rowe Price or the External Ratings Agencies have not rated the security. Please see Additional Disclosures page for information about this Moody's, S&P and this Fitch information.

Global Impact Credit Overview Performance Review Exhibits

### **Portfolio Construction**

#### Research-driven fundamental inputs

#### Macroeconomic outlook Credit cycle Global views for growth, policy, and inflation state Top Down Regional variances and dislocations Comparison of opportunity set **Duration** Strength of convictions management Duration allocations to help manage overall risk High-conviction ideas Issuer selection Detailed fundamental, valuation, and technical analysis 9, **ESG** considerations **Bottom Up** Secular shifts and trends Industry themes Technological disruptions Factor risk analysis Carry and rolldown capture Credit curve Credit curve shape guides position sizing positioning Quantitative filters to enhance efficiency

#### Risk-managed portfolio construction

Return Seeking Ideas High-conviction ideas

Informed by bottom-up analysis and market dislocations

Typically higher potential return but larger contributors to portfolio risk

Core Strategic Positions Long-term positions driving the portfolio

Strong underlying credit fundamentals

Primarily coupon and yield driven

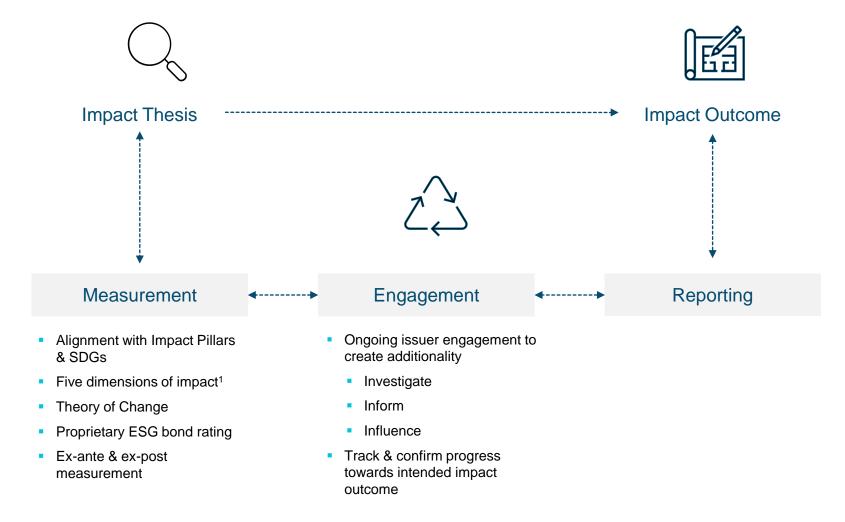
Defensive Offsets Positions designed to remove portfolio imbalances

Benefit from risk-averse environments

Focusing on limiting downside risks

A disciplined and repeatable investment process.

## **Ongoing Monitoring Towards Intended Impact Outcomes**

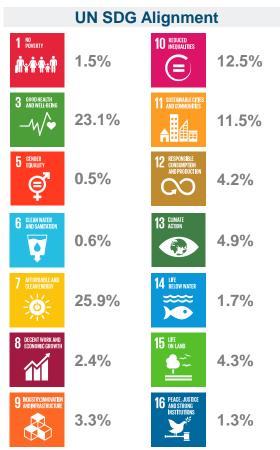


Embedded feedback loop throughout lifecycle of impact investment.

Global Impact Credit Overview Performance Review Exhibits

## **Uniformed Impact Reporting – Global Impact Credit Strategy**

As of 31 August 2023







7.5 million

Megawatts of installed renewable capacity

 $C0_{2}$ 

309 million

Metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e avoided

from GHG emissions

5.9 million Newly

financially-educated

population



1.4 million

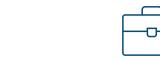
Megawatts hours of renewable energy saved



**1.1 billion**Gallons of water saved



**137.4 billion** tons of materials processed/recycled



90,000 Jobs created

66,168 Affordable/social

housing beneficiaries



**1.1 billion** Patients treated/supported/served



**528 billion** USD in loans to small and medium-sized enterprises



131,386 Loans to underbanked customers



**222,000**Procedures/surgeries/transplants performed

Individual company results may vary significantly and may not achieve the same level of impact in the future.

CO<sub>2</sub>e: carbon dioxide equivalent or CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent. This metric is used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases on the basis of their global warming potential, by converting amounts of other gases to the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide with the same global warming potential. Source: Eurostat.

<sup>%</sup> of Portfolio

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Most recent data available. Based on holdings in the portfolio as of date noted above. Holdings and outcomes may have changed from that time. Figures may not total due to cash and rounding. As at 31 December 2022. For illustrative purposes only. The impact outcomes provided here can be susceptible to potential inconsistencies due to lack of precise information. Companies do not measure or report in a consistent or uniform way. Where information is not available, we have not included a company's contribution within the impact outcome. This means that these estimates may actually be conservative, but as companies get better at measuring impact, we expect these data points to become more precise.

Global Impact Credit Overview Performance Review Exhibits

## **Market Outlook and Positioning**

As of 31 July 2023

#### GLOBAL CREDIT OUTLOOK



- Macro: Global divergences US resiliency, Europe fragility, and China deterioration. Developed Market central banks tilting hawkish. Recent bank stress, lagged effects of interest rate hikes and liquidity challenges argue for cautious positioning
- **Fundamentals**: Corporate fundamentals remain resilient. Margin pressures intensifying but revenue and earnings growth remains solid/reasonable. Interest coverage strong but weakening due to higher refinancing costs
- **Technicals**: Resolutely positive as demand exceeds supply. Light primary issuance through YE23, benign near-term maturities, and structural demand from yield-based buyers
- Valuation: Yields attractive but credit spreads screen increasingly stretched, reflecting the soft/no landing narrative

#### **POSITIONING**



- Sector: Maintaining a defensive vs offensive balance. Healthcare and Utilities offer defensive attributes while we see select dislocation opportunities in Real Estate
- Curve: Structurally favour front-end to intermediate credit for carry and roll return potential, attractive break-evens
- Rating: Favour short-dated BBs over As due to relative value, fundamental, and portfolio construction considerations
- Region: Tactical bias in USD credit over EUR given attractive hedged relative value

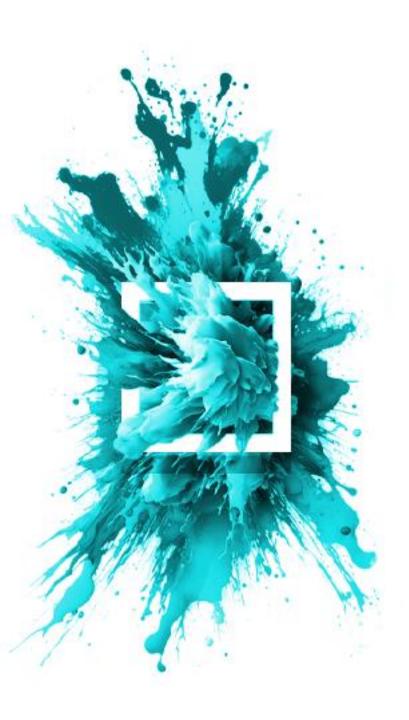
#### **IMPACT**



- Green bonds asserting as dominant label, driven by both corporates and SSAs while other labels struggle
- Sustainability-linked bonds fail to garner momentum due to lacking materiality, ambition, and investor sponsorship
- 'Greenium' steady at ~4bps but with significant sector variances
- Heighted focus on select impact themes within social (gender equality, financial inclusion) and climate (biodiversity, ocean conservation)
- Engagement focus areas: ESG Bonds guiding issuers on ex-ante proceeds allocation, impact measurement, and reporting. Net Zero targets + decarbonisation strategies

This is not intended to be investment advice or a recommendation to take any particular investment action.





## **Portfolio Review**

### **Guided Investment Parameters**

As of 31 August 2023

Benchmark: Bloomberg Global Aggregate Credit GBP Hedged Index

Number of Holdings: 75-150

High Yield: Max. 30%

Emerging Markets: Max. 40%

Non-Corporate Credit: Max. 50%

Currency Management: Fully hedged back to USD

**Duration Management:** +/- 1 year vs. the benchmark

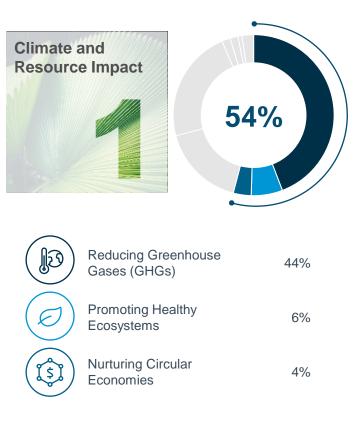
**Tracking Error Range:** 100 to 250 bps

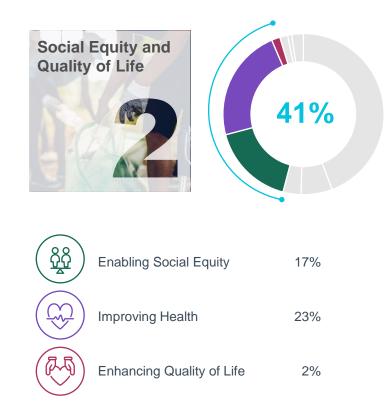
Investors may use the benchmark to compare the portfolio's performance. The benchmark has been selected because it is similar to the investment universe used by the investment manager and therefore acts as an appropriate comparator.

## Portfolio Positioning by Impact Pillar and Sub-pillar

As of 31 August 2023

#### Global Impact Credit Strategy







Figures may not total due to cash and rounding.

Cash and cash equivalents of 31 August 2023 were 2.3%.

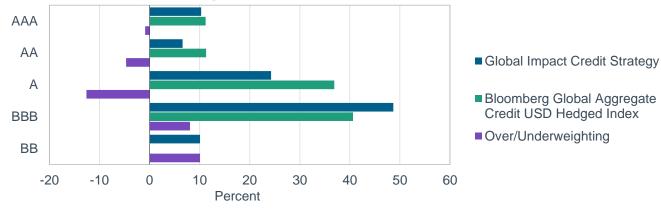
Source: T. Rowe Price uses a proprietary custom structure for impact pillar and sub-pillar classification.

### **Portfolio Characteristics**

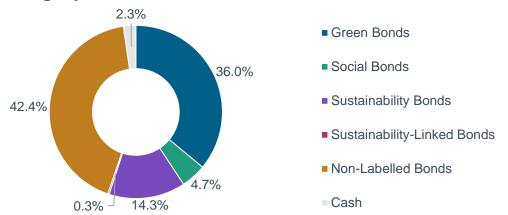
As of 31 August 2023

	Global Impact Credit Strategy	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>
Average Credit Rating <sup>2</sup>	A3/Baa1	A2/A3
Weighted Average Maturity (years)	7.95	8.59
Option Adjusted Duration (years)	5.86	5.97
Yield to Worst	5.86%	5.14%
OAS	139 bps	119 bps
Z-Spread	128 bps	103 bps
Number of Issuers	113	2,634
Duration Times Spread	8.00	7.69

#### **Credit Quality Rating<sup>2</sup>**



#### Positioning by ESG Bond Label



#### Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

<sup>1</sup> Bloomberg Global Aggregate Credit USD Hedged Index.

Source: "Bloomberg®" and Bloomberg Indices are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates, including Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL"), the administrator of the index (collectively, "Bloomberg") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by T. Rowe Price. Bloomberg is not affiliated with T. Rowe Price, and Bloomberg does not approve, endorse, review, or recommend this product. Bloomberg does not guarantee the timeliness, accurateness, or completeness of any data or information relating to this product.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Credit ratings for the securities held in the portfolio are provided by Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch and are converted to the Standard & Poor's nomenclature. A rating of "AAA" represents the highest-rated securities, and a rating of "D" represents the lowest-rated securities. If the rating agencies differ, the highest rating is applied to the security. If a rating is not available, the security is classified as Not Rated (NR). T. Rowe Price uses the rating of the underlying investment vehicle to determine the creditworthiness of credit default swaps and sovereign securities. The portfolio is not rated by any agency.

## Regional and Sector Report – Market Value (%)

As of 31 August 2023

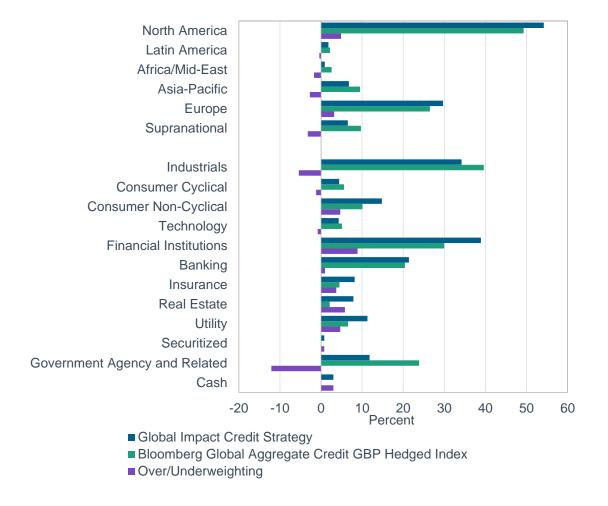
#### **Regional Allocation**

#### Global Impact Credit Strategy

#### Benchmark<sup>1</sup>

ollalegy		Delicilliaik
	Regional Allocation	
54.2%	North America	49.3%
1.8	Latin America	2.2
0.9	Africa / Middle East	2.6
6.8	Asia / Pacific	9.5
29.7	Europe	26.5
6.5	Supranational	9.7
90.0	Developed Market	90.7
7.0	Emerging Market	9.3
	Sector Allocation	
34.2%	Industrials	39.6%
4.4	Consumer Cyclical	5.6
14.8	Consumer Non-Cyclical	10.1
4.3	Technology	5.1
38.9	Financial Institutions	30.0
21.4	Banking	20.4
8.2	Insurance	4.5
7.9	REITs	2.1
11.3	Utility	6.6
0.8	Securitized	0.0
11.8	Government Agency and Related	23.9
3.0	Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.0

#### **Sector Allocation**



Source: "Bloomberg®" and Bloomberg Indices are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates, including Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL"), the administrator of the index (collectively, "Bloomberg") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by T. Rowe Price. Bloomberg is not affiliated with T. Rowe Price, and Bloomberg does not approve, endorse, review, or recommend this product. Bloomberg does not guarantee the timeliness, accurateness, or completeness of any data or information relating to this product.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bloomberg Global Aggregate Credit USD Hedged Index.

## **Top 10 Positions – Impact Thesis**

As of 30 June 2023

Security	% of Portfolio	Impact Thesis	Impact Pillar	Sub Pillar	КРІ	Primary UN SDG
European Investment Bank 0.625% 2027	1.8%	EIB's Sustainability Awareness Bond improves access to specialized health care services. Projects consisted of financing investments aiming to increase health care infrastructure and medical equipment capacity and improve future pandemic preparedness.	Social Equity & Quality of Life	Improving health	60,916 patients treated	3 GOODHEAITH AND WELL-BEING
IBRD 1.375% 2028	1.6	The World Bank's Wildlife Conservation Bond (Rhino Bond) is a sustainable development bond. The bond directly channels funds to conservation outcomes, specifically by targeting black rhino populations in South Africa. The primary impact focuses on improving biodiversity, with a secondary impact directed to improved education and job training.	Climate & Resource Impact	Promoting healthy ecosystems	3.5 million people with improved living conditions	15 the online
Cooperatieve Rabobank 4.375% 2025	1.4	Rabobank is a Dutch cooperative bank with a leading position in the domestic retail banking and in the food and agribusiness markets worldwide. The bank drives financial inclusion with Retail and SME lending accounting for 100% of its loan book.	Social Equity & Quality of Life	Enabling social equity	\$128 billion loans to SMEs	10 REDUCED INCOMMUTES
Carrier Global 2.722% 2030	1.3	Carrier manufactures energy-efficient HVAC and transport refrigeration systems. These primarily improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions for both residential and commercial buildings.	Climate & Resource Impact	Reducing GHGs	137 million mtCO <sub>2</sub> /yr emissions avoided	13 climate action
TenneT Holding 4.5% 2034	1.3	TenneT is a leading European electricity TSO serving 42 million end-users. TenneT issued its green bond focused on the transmission of renewable electricity from offshore wind power plants into the onshore electricity grid.	Climate & Resource Impact	Reducing GHGs	8.7 billion mtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr emissions avoided	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
Centene Corp 4.25% 2027	1.3	A leading Medicaid managed care provider, serving vulnerable populations, including low-income families and disabled people through state Medicaid plans, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and other programs.	. ,	Improving health	26,611,000 patients treated	3 GOODHEALTH AND WELL-SEING
BPCE 2.045% 2027	1.2	BPCE social bond to fund local Economic Development through financing of small businesses, SMEs, local authorities and non-profit organizations that seek to benefit people who live and work in economically and/or socially disadvantaged areas.	Social Equity & Quality of Life	Enabling social equity	20,248 loans to SMEs	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
LeasePlan Corporation 3.5% 2025	1.2	LeasePlan's financing of battery electric vehicles will create healthier environments in towns and cities by promoting cleaner, low-emission vehicles and the infrastructure required to make these automobiles a viable option for customers.	Climate & Resource Impact	Reducing GHGs	17,703 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr emissions avoided	13 CLIMATE ACTION
Kilroy Realty 2.5% 2032	1.2	Kilroy's green bonds finance the development of green buildings with a minimum certificate of LEED Gold or above, which will likely yield meaningful and measurable GHG reduction.	Climate & Resource Impact	Reducing GHGs	72% share of green building certificates	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Southern Cal Edison 2.5% 2031	1.2	Sustainability bond proceeds finance renewable energy generation connection, clean transportation, and energy efficiency which will likely reduce GHG emissions from the power and transportation sectors.	Climate & Resource Impact	Reducing GHGs	349,229 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e/yr emissions avoided	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Securities are as of the date indicated and are subject to change.

The specific securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for portfolio, and no assumptions should be made that investments in the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable.

http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

Source: T. Rowe Price uses a proprietary custom structure for impact pillar and sub-pillar classification. Impact thesis sourced from T. Rowe Price.





## **Performance Review**

### **Performance**

Periods Ended 31 August 2023 Figures are Calculated in U.S. Dollars

#### Global Impact Credit (USD Hedged) Composite

#### **Annualised**

	Quarter-to- Date	Year-to- Date	One Year	Since Inception 31 Dec 2021
Global Impact Credit (USD Hedged) Composite (Gross of Fees)	0.47%	3.19%	1.92%	-6.80%
Global Impact Credit (USD Hedged) Composite (Net of Fees)	0.43	3.03	1.68	-7.03
Bloomberg Global Aggregate Credit USD Hedged Index	0.23	3.23	1.49	-7.03
Value Added (Gross of Fees)*	0.24	-0.04	0.43	0.23
Value Added (Net of Fees)*	0.20	-0.20	0.19	0.00

#### Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Gross performance returns are presented before management and all other fees, where applicable, but after trading expenses. Net of fees performance reflects the deduction of the highest applicable management fee that would be charged based on the fee schedule contained within this material, without the benefit of breakpoints. Gross and net performance returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends and are net of all non-reclaimable withholding taxes on dividends, interest income, and capital gains.

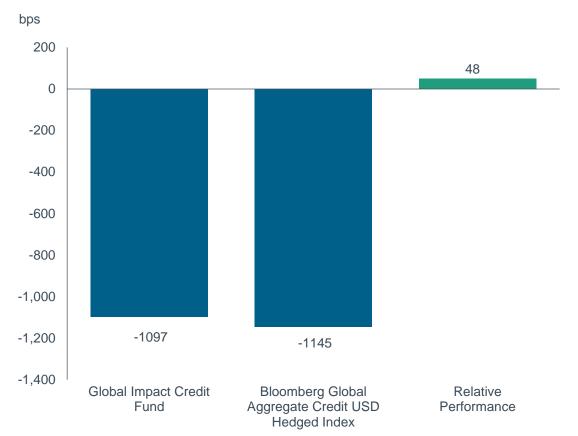
\* The Value Added row is shown as Global Impact Credit (USD Hedged) Composite minus the benchmark in the previous row.

Source for Bloomberg index data: Bloomberg Index Services Limited. Please see Additional Disclosures page for information about this Bloomberg information.

## Since Inception Performance Attribution (USD)

As of 31 August 2023 Figures are Calculated in U.S. Dollars

#### **Overall Performance**



#### **Contribution to Excess Return**



#### Past Performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Attribution analysis represents the combined performance of the underlying securities held within the given time period relative to its benchmark as calculated by the Bloomberg attribution model. Performance is attributed to a set of portfolio decisions such as credit quality, duration and yield curve exposures, relative sector weightings, and security selection. Performance, gross of fees, for each security is obtained in the currency in which it is issued and, if necessary, is converted to U.S. Dollars using an exchange rate determined by an independent third party. Figures are shown gross of fees. Returns would have been lower as a result of the deduction of such fees.

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.

Source for Bloomberg index data: Bloomberg Index Services Limited. Please see Additional Disclosures page for information about this Bloomberg information.





## **Exhibits**

## Impact Analysis in Practice Ørsted blue bond

As of 30 June 2023

#### **Impact Thesis**

Ørsted's blue bond promotes the sustainable use of ocean resources across its offshore wind activities and sustainable shipping fuels business, while preserving biodiversity and the health of the ocean ecosystem. Capital raised from this blue bond will be used to scale-up existing efforts on marine biodiversity, and to support the transition to sustainable shipping.

#### Fundamentals – Five Dimensions of Impact

#### What?

Proceeds will be used to facilitate marine ecosystem restoration which is vital in promoting natural resource conservation and ocean biodiversity.

#### Who?

Planet: protect biodiversity and support improvements in shellfish, coral reefs, seabird habitats, blue economy.

#### How much?

As the bond was issued in June 2023, the first post-issuance report has not been released.

However, Ørsted plans to use sustainable shipping allocations to support its ambition to take a leading position in developing green ocean fuels and decarbonizing vessels.

#### Contribution

Ørsted aims for a net-positive biodiversity impact from all new projects commissioned by 2030.

To achieve this ambition, Ørsted is piloting new innovative techniques, with the objective of learning from successes and failures so that it can scale up successful solutions.

#### **Risks**

Risk 1: External risks:
Extreme weather events and coastal flooding can degrade reefs and marine ecosystems.

Risk 2: Evidence Risk:
Notwithstanding progress
made in measuring and
monitoring climate risks and
benefits, collecting biodiversity
data is complex and
challenging.

#### **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

- Increase in biodiversity: Mean species abundance (sq/km), Coral reefs restored.
- GHG emissions avoided through decarbonizing shipping vessels (mtCO<sub>2</sub>).

#### **Impact Alignment**

Impact Pillar
Climate & Resource

Impact Sub-Pillar
Promoting Healthy Ecosystems

**UN SDG** 



#### **Theory of Change**

#### Input

EUR 100 million proceeds supporting biodiversity and the health of the ocean ecosystem

#### **Output**

Principal investment will be used to scale-up existing efforts on marine biodiversity and to support the transition to sustainable shipping

#### Outcomes

Area of improved marine ecosystems, measured using biodiversity indicators

#### **Impact**

Increase in biodiversity as a result of conservation efforts

28

The specific securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for the Strategy, and no assumptions should be made that the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable. T. Rowe Price uses a proprietary custom structure for impact pillar and sub-pillar classification.

## Impact Analysis in Practice Rady Children's Hospital Bond

As of 30 June 2023

#### **Impact Thesis**

Rady Children's Hospital is a nonprofit hospital and the largest children's hospital in California. It is the only pediatric quaternary hospital in San Diego County.

Our investment in Rady Children's Hospital is a non-labelled bond.

#### **Fundamentals – Five Dimensions of Impact** Who? What?

Reduce child mortality, improve patient outcomes, and increase access to healthcare services for unserved communities.

People – Children with acute & long-term health needs located near San Diego.

#### How much?

17,783 total inpatient admissions in FY 2022. 340 staffed beds at care facilities. 154 affiliated medical residents and fellows (UC San Diego School of Medicine).

#### Contribution

The proceeds will be used to fund quality care to patients and capital improvement projects to renovate/expand facilities.

Increased funding will improve access to healthcare services and programs for underserved communities.

#### **Risks**

Measurement risk – patient demographic statistics are collected infrequently (every 3-5 years).

#### **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

- Number of staffed hospital beds
- Inpatient admissions

Outpatient visits

#### **Impact Alignment**

**Impact Pillar** Social Equity & Quality of Life

**Impact Sub-Pillar** Improving Health

**UN SDG** 



#### **Theory of Change**

#### Input

Investment into drug research and development.

USD 27.8 million R&D expense

#### **Output**

Successful surgeries and treatment of patients.

Care to low-income patients

#### **Outcomes**

- Improve patient health by treating diagnosed illnesses.
- Over 147k emergency department and urgent care visits 17,695 surgeries performed
- 200+ active clinical trials
- Reduce the number of families unable to afford care or enter financial hardship/bankruptcy

**Impact** 

Lives extended.

Subsidized care provided

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## Impact Analysis in Practice **Export-Import Bank of Korea Blue Bond**

As of 30 June 2023

#### **Impact Thesis**

KEXIM issued its inaugural \$3.5bn blue bond to support investments in sustainable maritime transportation. The investment's goal is to minimize adverse climate and environmental impacts of sea and coastal freight, water transport and vessels for port operations in Korea.

#### Fundamentals – Five Dimensions of Impact

#### What?

Reduction of environmental impacts of Korean shipping industry through investments in clean maritime transportation

#### Who?

Planet – Korean shipping industry

#### How much?

KEXIM expects to disburse KRW 69trn in credit (KRW 30trn to SMEs) in 2022 and plans to provide KRW 10trn of loans for the Maritime sector in 2022.

#### Contribution

In 2020, the bank contributed to annual employment retention of 600,000 jobs.

KEXIM aims to provide ESG financing for Korean businesses of >180trn KRW within 2021-2030.

#### **Risks**

Risk of vessels being used for the transportation of fossil fuels, however KEXIM has confirmed that it will exclude these vessels within its blue bond framework

#### **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

- Number of sustainable vessels financed
- GHG emissions avoided (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/year)
- Consumption of renewable fuel vs. conventional fossil fuel

#### **Impact Alignment**

### Impact Pillar Climate & Resource

Impact Sub-Pillar
Promoting Healthy Ecosystems

**UN SDG** 



#### **Theory of Change**

#### Input

\$3.5bn blue bond proceeds (USD)

#### Output

Number of sustainable vessels financed (#)

#### Outcomes

Fossil fuel and energy savings (tons)

#### Impact

Annual CO<sub>2</sub> emission savings (tCO<sub>2</sub>)

Improvements in marine life

30

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## Engagement in Practice AIB Group

As of 28 March 2023

#### **Impact Thesis**

AIB Group social bonds help finance loans dedicated to improving access to healthcare, providing social and affordable housing, providing access to education, and SME financing in socio-economic disadvantaged areas.

AIB green bonds also provide a positive environmental impact via low carbon commercial and residential buildings and renewable energy generation.

#### Impact Pillar Alignment



#### Sub-pillar Alignment



Reducing Greenhouse Gases

#### **UN SDG Alignment**



Type of engagement



Inform

31

#### Objective

 We engaged with AIB to provide disclosure recommendations on their climate strategy and green/social bond impact reporting.

#### Dialogue

- We discussed AIB's climate strategy which is aligned to their European peers.
- As AIB have been frequent issuers of green and social bonds, we discussed the quality of their impact reporting.
- We spent some time discussing their customer satisfaction scores to better understand their social impact risks and considerations.

#### Outcome

- We provided a number of disclosure recommendations to improve AIB's climate strategy and their green and social bond reporting.
- This will help maintain and improve the consistency of AIB's green and social bond reporting.

#### What's next?

- We will monitor AIB's next impact report to assess the quality of their reporting.
- We will assess their client transition plans, and their progress towards their sectoral financed emission target.
- We will also monitor the quality of their qualitative case studies in future green and social bond impact reports.

http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

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### Divestment Example **Kimco**

As of 31 January 2023

#### **Impact Thesis**

Kimco's green bond funds investments in green sustainable-certified buildings, along with energy efficient building systems, and sustainable water and wastewater management systems

#### Impact Pillar Alignment



#### Sub-pillar Alignment



Reducing Greenhouse Gases

#### **UN SDG Alignment**



Aug 2022

Kimco release second green bond

post-issuance impact report

Type of engagement



Investigate

Jan 2023

Global Impact Credit

divests from the bond

32

#### Investment timeline

#### **July 2020** Kimco issue green bond

**July 2021** Kimco release inaugural green bond post-issuance impact report

## **Dec 2021**

Global Impact Credit buys Kimco's green bond

Dec 2021 1st engagement

Objective: To provide feedback on Kimco's Green Bond Framework.

Dialogue: We highlighted areas for improvement, including allocating proceeds to projects delivering material climate benefit (LEED Gold certified and above buildings), as well as more granular impact metric reporting.

Outcome: Kimco welcomed our feedback and confirmed it may consider refreshing the previous framework to incorporate evolving market standards.

Post engagement: We planned to monitor the granularity of Kimco's next post-issuance report.

http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

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Nov 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> engagement:

Objective: To provide feedback on the company's green bond framework and second post-issuance report.

<u>Dialogue:</u> We observed no discernible improvement in project allocation in terms of ambition, as well as a continued absence of hard impact metrics

Outcome: We encouraged Kimco to make a variety of changes to bring their reporting in line with the industry's best practice.

Post engagement: We ultimately felt Kimco had not made enough progress in their post-issuance reporting and thus looked to divest from our position.

## **Global Impact Credit Strategy**

#### Objective

To have a positive impact on the environment and society by investing primarily in sustainable investments, where the companies' current or future business activities are expected to generate a positive impact whilst at the same time seeking to increase the value of its shares through both growth in the value of, and income from, its investments.

#### Material Risks – The following risks are materially relevant to the portfolio:

- ABS and MBS risk Asset-Backed Securities (ABS) and Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS) may be subject to greater liquidity, credit, default and interest rate risk compared to other bonds.
   They are often exposed to extension and prepayment risk.
- Contingent convertible Bonds risk Contingent Convertible Bonds may be subject to additional risks linked to: capital structure inversion, trigger levels, coupon cancellations, call extensions, yield/valuation, conversions, write downs, industry concentration and liquidity, among others.
- Convertible bonds risk Convertible bonds contain an embedded equity option which exposes them to risks linked to equity as well as fixed income. They may be subject to higher market and liquidity risk.
- Credit risk Credit risk arises when an issuer's financial health deteriorates and/or it fails to fulfill its financial obligations to the portfolio.
- Distressed or defaulted debt risk Distressed or defaulted debt securities may bear substantially higher degree of risks linked to recovery, liquidity and valuation.
- Default risk Default risk may occur if the issuers of certain bonds become unable or unwilling to make payments on their bonds.
- Derivatives risk Derivatives may be used to create leverage which could expose the portfolio to higher volatility and/or losses that are significantly greater than the cost of the derivative.
- Emerging markets risk Emerging markets are less established than developed markets and therefore involve higher risks.
- High yield debt risk High yield debt securities are generally subject to greater risk of issuer debt restructuring or default, higher liquidity risk and greater sensitivity to market conditions.
- Interest rate risk Interest rate risk is the potential for losses in fixed-income investments as a result of unexpected changes in interest rates.
- Liquidity risk Liquidity risk may result in securities becoming hard to value or trade within a desired timeframe at a fair price.

#### General portfolio risks – to be read in conjunction with the portfolio specific risks above.

- Capital risk the value of your investment will vary and is not guaranteed. It will be affected by changes in the exchange rate between the base currency of the portfolio and the currency in which you subscribed, if different.
- Counterparty risk an entity with which the fund transacts may not meet its obligations to the portfolio.
- ESG and Sustainability risk may result in a material negative impact on the value of an investment and performance of the portfolio.
- Geographic concentration risk to the extent that a portfolio invests a large portion of its assets in a particular geographic area, its performance will be more strongly affected by events within that area.
- Hedging risk a portfolio's attempts to reduce or eliminate certain risks through hedging may not work as intended.
- Investment portfolio risk investing in portfolios involves certain risks an investor would not face if investing in markets directly.
- Management risk the investment manager or its designees may at times find their obligations to a portfolio to be in conflict with their obligations to other investment portfolios they manage (although in such cases, all portfolios will be dealt with equitably).

• Operational risk – operational failures could lead to disruptions of portfolio operations or financial losses.

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# Q&A





## Thank You